

Pericles Reading

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Greece

Activity: read the speech by Pericles and then answer the questions that follow. You will need to be able to explain to the class the importance of your assignment.

1. Write a personal definition for the word "democracy." Follow this up by comparing this to a dictionary definition.
2. According to Pericles, what precisely makes Athens great?
3. How does this compare to other city-states?
4. What is Pericles' definition of democracy?
5. What are the responsibilities of Athenian citizenship?
6. Why does Pericles need to defend the Athenian system?

7. In what ways does the way of life in Athens differ from other Greek city-states?
8. What problems do you see in Pericles' description of Athens?
9. Where does Pericles directly or indirectly make verbal attacks on Sparta?
10. Is a funeral oration a reliable source for information about a culture? Why or why not?